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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

24 JANUARY 2018

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Airstrikes Kill up to 150 ISIS Fighters

(U) Washington – US military officials say American airstrikes in Syria killed up to 150 ISIS fighters in a command center in the Middle Euphrates River Valley. The US-led coalition fighting ISIS says the strikes were near As Shafah, in eastern Syria. The airstrikes targeted an ISIS headquarters and were assisted by Syrian Democratic Forces who surveilled the area before the attack. The coalition says there was a heavy concentration of fighters at the site and they appeared to be preparing to move.

SOURCE: 23 January 2018, [Washington Post](#)

(U) North Dakota – Marijuana Seized Following Traffic Stop

(U) Jamestown – Sheriff's Deputies seized 476 pounds of marijuana during a traffic stop this past Sunday morning. The seizure has resulted in almost 700 pounds of marijuana being confiscated by the sheriff's office in a little more than a month. The driver was identified as Nhia Lee, of St. Paul, Minnesota, and the passenger as Bee Thor, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Both were arrested and made their initial appearance in Southeast District Court. They are charged with possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

SOURCE: 23 January 2018, [WENY News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Afghanistan – Americans Were Among 22 Killed in Hotel Attack

(U) Kabul – The State Department said yesterday that US citizens were among the victims of the Taliban attack on a hotel in Kabul, Afghanistan, over the weekend, which killed 22 people. American officials said they were not yet able to publicly identify the citizens who were killed or injured, but Afghan officials said it appeared that at least three people with American citizenship — all of them either dual citizens or with family roots in Afghanistan — had lost their lives. Six Taliban militants barged into the highly guarded Intercontinental hotel on Saturday night, fighting until noon on Sunday. At least 14 of their victims were foreign citizens, nine of them pilots and flight crew members from Ukraine and Venezuela who worked for a private Afghan airline, Kam Air.

SOURCE: 23 January 2018, [The New York Times](#)

(U) Brazil – 70 Killed in Yellow Fever Outbreak

(U) Sao Paulo – Sao Paulo closed its zoo and botanical gardens yesterday as a yellow fever outbreak that has led to 70 deaths. The big Inhotim art park announced that all visitors would have to show proof of vaccination to be allowed in. The park said the measure was preventative and no case of yellow fever had been found there. Cases of yellow fever have been rising in Brazil during the Southern Hemisphere summer rainy season, and health officials are planning to vaccinate millions of people in the coming weeks in the hopes of containing the outbreak.

SOURCE: 23 January 2018, [Associated Press](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) Canada – Transit Agency Hit by Cyber Attack**

(U) Toronto – Ontario transit agency Metrolinx says it was the target of a cyberattack that originated in North Korea, but no personal information was compromised and systems that operate its trains and buses were not affected. Metrolinx manages transportation services for the Toronto and Hamilton area. North Korea has been implicated in recent hacks, including the WannaCry ransomware attack that infected hundreds of thousands of computers worldwide and crippled parts of Britain's National Health Service in May.

SOURCE: 23 January 2018, [The Canada Press](#)

(U) Libya – Car Bombings Kill More Than 30

(U) Benghazi – A double car bombing in the east Libyan city of Benghazi yesterday left at least 33 people dead and dozens more wounded, including senior security figures and civilians, officials said. The twin explosions shattered the relative calm that had recently returned to Libya's second city, scene of more than three years of warfare from 2014 until late last year. The first blast struck outside a mosque in central Al Salmani district. Around 10 to 15 minutes later, a second, more powerful blast was detonated from a Mercedes parked on the opposite side of the street, hitting an ambulance, and causing a higher number of casualties. It was not immediately clear who was responsible.

SOURCE: 23 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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